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CHARTER APPLICATION: PART ONE

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MATTAPAN CHARTER SCHOOL

Submitted
February 14, 1994

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MATTAPAN CHARTER SCHOOL**MISSION**

Our philosophy is to establish a school that embodies parent and teacher empowerment and school accountability. Accountability for all! We will establish a continuity of quality education that will produce well balanced students. Our mission will mean giving the best for the best results. Each one of us are born with the potential to succeed. We will cultivate that potential to it's ultimate capability.

SCHOOL OBJECTIVES

Guarantee! A solid education in the required basics of reading, writing and arithmetic is fundamental. The smooth transition of continuity from one grade to the next is part of our fundamental guarantee. Our graduating students' first step into High School will be an adventure for which they will be well prepared. Our academic trade mark will be creativity, flexibility, empowerment and accountability.

Cultivating an ambience of cleanliness and positive self image will be a prime objective. The school must be physically clean and kept orderly, as well as the value of cleanliness taught.

Our focus will be to develop independent thinkers who work excellently in groups as well as solo ventures. Creative, analytical and critical thinking will be the noetic principle of our school.

Students will be taught civic-mindedness based on the inter-connecting relationship between home, school and community. Our schools community environment will be unity, working together and family orientated (open door policy) atmosphere.

STATEMENT OF NEED

The statistics of community violence and crimes against family members clearly warrants the need. The lack of conveniently accessible schools in our community establishes the need. The history of below grade level academic achievement in our community presents a real need for the Mattapan Charter School.

Being a role model for family and community unity, by giving a sense of belonging. We will be able to give more individual attention to each student. The school will be a refuge from the negative influences that captivate the minds of our children. The Mattapan Charter School will be a crucible of learning.

SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHICS

The area we plan on building our school in is devoid of public schools for our children. We are specifically considering Mattapan, but will not exclude the possibility of Dorchester and Roxbury. We need schools in our community, for our community. There are a lot of abandon buildings in our community that should be used constructively.

A chartered school for the community, by the community, that is within the community is our reason for location selection. Other locations can serve some of our needs and focus, but not all of them.

To the best of our knowledge there is no public school stressing the essentiality of cleanliness, manners and ethics. Statistical data proclaims that we are targeting the underprivileged and at-risk students in most need of what we offer.

Our community consist of a multi-racial, diverse social and economical groups. We anticipate applicants from every aspect of our community.

We are anticipating enrollment of one hundred (100) to two hundred fifty (250) students.

Grade levels K-8 will be served, with approximately fifteen (15) students in each class. Approximately thirty (30) students for each grade level.

RECRUITING & MARKETING PLAN

Publicizing to attract a sufficient pool of applicants will be done in four ways;

1. BNN-TV Cable Access Television
2. Radio and Television PSA's
3. Flyers and Posting
4. Word of Mouth

We will go out to parent's home and discuss charter school. Specifically discussing the advantages of our school. Information packet will be sent out to further educate parents to the need for us.

ADMISSION POLICY

The Mattapan Charter School will be open to all, with priority given to applicants from the community. There will be an application supplied by the school. Before acceptance into the school there will be a placement exam given. We will collect records from students previous school.

Where there is no record a physical (medical examination) will be required. We will also require three letters of recommendation. An interview with the parent/s and student/s that will attend will be the final criteria assessment before a decision is made. Our focus will be to determine the likelihood of the student succeeding in our school.

The parents must possess the willingness and desire to have their child educated in a family orientated, community based school. To the best of our ability, we will make certain, parents understand and agree with the mission of our school. The good self image that will be fostered in the ambience of cleanliness, unity and team work will create the balance for students to excel academically.

PROFILE OF FOUNDING COALITION

We are parents living in the urban communities of Boston. Our coalescence was forged out of necessity. A necessity to demand quality education for our children. We are a non-profit community information resource group. Mustafa productions has been researching, collecting and dispersing information to the community for approximately four years.

We are parents concerned about the obvious problems and inadequacy of the present Boston Public School System. We believe decentralization in itself will improve the quality of education. Parent empowerment is essential! The Education Reform Act of 1993 grants us the opportunity to establish a workable alternative to the present decaying colossal system.

We are still in the conceptual stage of the recruitment of organizers and Board of Trustee members. We plan to utilize the Pioneer Institute's Charter School Resource Center. We have already contacted and established a working relationship with Pioneer Institute. Group contact: Khalid Mustafa & Lunita Mustafa, 20 Constitution Road, Mattapan 02126. Group associates: Johnny Williams; Debbie Glover Williams; Alva Thompson.

617-296-9511

TIMETABLE

Acceptance of part one of our charter application by the Executive Office of Education will activate our timetable of events. We will use our acceptance to recruit Board of Trustee members. We will appoint seven members who will work with the founders to establish our bylaws. Thereafter, we will:

1. Solicit grant funding
2. Negotiate a building
3. Obtain equipment and supplies
4. Adopt a curriculum
5. Recruit teachers
6. Recruit students
7. Complete part two and three of charter application